

110TH CONGRESS  
2D SESSION

# H. R. 6589

To provide financial support for the operation of the law library of the  
Library of Congress, and for other purposes.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JULY 23, 2008

Ms. ZOE LOFGREN of California (for herself and Mr. DANIEL E. LUNGREN of California) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on House Administration, and in addition to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned

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## A BILL

To provide financial support for the operation of the law  
library of the Library of Congress, and for other purposes.

1       *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*  
2       *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3       **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4       This Act may be cited as the “Charles H.W. Meehan  
5       Law Library Improvement and Modernization Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. FINANCIAL SUPPORT FOR LAW LIBRARY OF LI-**  
2 **BRARY OF CONGRESS.**

3 (a) FINANCIAL SUPPORT.—In addition to any other  
4 amounts made available for the salaries and expenses of  
5 the Library of Congress, there are authorized to be appro-  
6 priated to the Librarian of Congress \$3,500,000 for build-  
7 ing, maintaining, and administering the operations of the  
8 law library of the Library of Congress, including the cata-  
9 logging of the collections of the law library. Any amounts  
10 appropriated pursuant to the authority of this subsection  
11 shall remain available without fiscal year limitation until  
12 expended.

13 (b) ELECTRONIC CATALOGING OF NONPROPRIETARY  
14 MATERIAL.—To the extent practicable, in using any funds  
15 appropriated pursuant to the authority of subsection (a)  
16 to catalog and archive nonproprietary material in the col-  
17 lections of the Law Library after the date of the enact-  
18 ment of this Act, the Law Librarian of Congress shall  
19 catalog and archive the material electronically in a non-  
20 proprietary and nondiscriminatory format. Nothing in the  
21 previous sentence may be construed to affect any cata-  
22 logging and archiving activities carried out with funds  
23 which are not appropriated pursuant to the authority of  
24 subsection (a).

1 **SEC. 3. SEPARATION OF LAW LIBRARY SALARIES AND EX-**  
2 **PENSES IN PREPARATION OF ANNUAL LI-**  
3 **BRARY OF CONGRESS BUDGET.**

4 (a) SEPARATE BUDGET TREATMENT OF LAW LI-  
5 BRARY.—In preparing the annual budget for the Library  
6 of Congress which will be submitted by the President  
7 under chapter 11 of title 31, United States Code, and in  
8 preparing the annual budget and related materials for the  
9 Library of Congress for the use of the Committees on Ap-  
10 propriations of the Senate and House of Representatives,  
11 the Librarian of Congress shall ensure that all amounts  
12 attributable to salaries and expenses of the law library of  
13 the Library of Congress are set forth separately as a sepa-  
14 rate line item from other salaries and expenses of the Li-  
15 brary of Congress.

16 (b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—This section shall apply with  
17 respect to fiscal year 2010 and each succeeding fiscal year.

18 **SEC. 4. CHARLES H. W. MEEHAN PROGRAM TO SUPPORT**  
19 **THE MISSION OF THE LAW LIBRARY OF THE**  
20 **LIBRARY OF CONGRESS.**

21 (a) ESTABLISHMENT.—

22 (1) IN GENERAL.—The Librarian of Congress,  
23 acting through the Law Librarian of Congress, shall  
24 establish and operate a program to be known as the  
25 “Charles H. W. Meehan Law Library Support Pro-

1       gram” (hereafter in this section referred to as the  
2       “Program”), which will—

3               (A) provide enhanced or special services  
4               and programs for the Law Library; and

5               (B) otherwise support the mission of the  
6       Law Library.

7       (2) RELATION TO OTHER PROGRAMS.—The Li-  
8       brarian shall operate the Program in a manner  
9       which ensures that the resources of the Program are  
10      not commingled with the resources used to carry out  
11      the program operated under section 2.

12      (b) ROLE OF OTHER ENTITIES.—The Librarian may  
13      carry out the Program through agreements and partner-  
14      ships entered into with other government and private enti-  
15      ties, including the American Association of Law Libraries  
16      and the American Bar Association.

17      (c) PRIVATE SUPPORT.—

18              (1) ACCEPTANCE OF DONATIONS.—Donations  
19      of funds and in-kind contributions in support of the  
20      Program may be accepted—

21              (A) by the Library of Congress Trust  
22              Fund Board, as provided under the Act entitled  
23              “An Act to create a Library of Congress Trust  
24              Fund Board, and for other purposes”, approved  
25              March 3, 1925 (2 U.S.C. 154 et seq.); and

1 (B) by the Librarian of Congress, as pro-  
2 vided under section 4 of such Act (2 U.S.C.  
3 160).

4 (2) USE OF AMOUNTS.—Notwithstanding the  
5 second paragraph of section 2 of the Act entitled  
6 “An Act to create a Library of Congress Trust Fund  
7 Board, and for other purposes”, approved March 3,  
8 1925 (2 U.S.C. 157), or the third sentence of sec-  
9 tion 4 of such Act (2 U.S.C. 160), any amounts ac-  
10 cepted by the Library of Congress Trust Fund  
11 Board or the Librarian of Congress in support of  
12 the Program shall be subject to disbursement by the  
13 Librarian only upon the recommendation of the Law  
14 Librarian (except to the extent otherwise provided  
15 under any terms and conditions on the use of the  
16 amounts which are imposed by the person making  
17 the donation).

18 (3) ACCEPTANCE OF OTHER VOLUNTARY SERV-  
19 ICES.—Notwithstanding section 1342 of title 31,  
20 United States Code, the Librarian of Congress may  
21 accept voluntary and uncompensated services in sup-  
22 port of the Program.

23 (d) ESTABLISHMENT OF SEPARATE ACCOUNT.—

24 (1) IN GENERAL.—There is established in the  
25 Treasury (among the accounts of the Library of

1 Congress) a separate account for the Program,  
2 which shall consist of—

3 (A) amounts accepted by the Library of  
4 Congress Trust Fund Board in support of the  
5 Program as described in subsection (c)(1)(A),  
6 together with any income earned on such  
7 amounts;

8 (B) amounts accepted by the Librarian of  
9 Congress in support of the Program as de-  
10 scribed in subsection (c)(1)(B), together with  
11 any income earned on such amounts;

12 (C) amounts appropriated pursuant to the  
13 authorization under subsection (f); and

14 (D) interest on the balance of the account.

15 (2) USE OF AMOUNTS.—The funds contained in  
16 the account established under this subsection shall  
17 be used solely by the Law Librarian of Congress to  
18 carry out the Program.

19 (e) ANNUAL REPORT.—Not later than April 30 of  
20 each year (beginning with 2009), the Librarian of Con-  
21 gress shall submit a report on Program funding and ac-  
22 tivities to the Committee on House Administration of the  
23 House of Representatives, the Committee on Rules and  
24 Administration of the Senate, the American Bar Associa-

tion, and the American Association of Law Libraries. The report shall include—

(1) a listing of all donations received in support of the Program during the previous year;

(2) the total obligations during the previous year for each Program activity;

(3) the amount appropriated pursuant to the authorization under subsection (f) for the fiscal year beginning on the previous October 1;

(4) a list of Program activities, with budget information for each such activity, planned for the calendar year in which the report is submitted; and

(5) any findings in the most recently completed audit conducted with respect to the Law Library or Program funds or investments.

(f) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—In addition to any other amounts authorized to be appropriated to the Librarian of Congress for the Law Library of Congress for a fiscal year, there are authorized to be appropriated for deposit into the account established under subsection (d) an amount equal to 40 percent of the amount of the donations accepted by the Library of Congress Trust Fund Board in support of the Program under subsection (c)(1) during the previous fiscal year.

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